

claims 17-34 were withdrawn and claims 1-16 and 35-36 were pending. The recitation of the pending claims on page 9 of the previous Response, however, correctly indicated that claim 34, an apparatus claim, is still pending. The Applicant wishes to clarify and correct any misstatement in the Remarks Section of the previous Response.

The Applicant hereby confirms the election to withdraw the method claims, i.e., claims 17-33, and to proceed with examination of the apparatus claims, i.e., claims 1-16 and 34-35. To the extent that claim 34 was inadvertently withdrawn, Applicant respectfully requests that it be reinstated as a pending claim. Applicant has not included a new Listing of Claims since the previous Listing of Claims on pages 2-9 of the Response filed August 4, 2003 is correct.

To summarize, claims 17-33 are hereby withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-16 and 34-35 are pending.

In the event of any question, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate a telephone conversation with the undersigned.

Dated this 30 day of September 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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